



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



December 6, 2013 – Vol. 39, Issue 10

Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 36 Years

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton



Good Morning Optimist Welcome!

A big fat zero - that is what the thermometer says the “frightful” weather is outside as we begin our weekly meeting. A large group of members braved the cold, and President **Jon Wachter** and **Barry Barker** welcomed us with warm, hearty handshakes.



In Remembrance

“Too noble for anger” — Is it possible Nelson Mandela, (1918-2013) was an Optimist? Here is a quote from the man who passed away yesterday at the age of 95: “Resentment is like drinking poison and hoping your enemies get sick.”



Invocation

Reverend **Bob Coulson** gave us a tree lot-themed reminder of our chance to spread the spirit of optimism while selling trees and wreaths.

Being Optimistic

President Jon then asked us to enthusiastically greet your neighbor — a wonderful way to wake up and get your smile working.

Guests

We welcomed Eric Hopper, a guest of Gary Miller. Eric bought a tree and came for breakfast! Welcome to Eric, we hope to see you back and as a member!

Dime-A-Day, aka Dollar-A-Day

Past MSOC President and District Lt. Governor, **Paul Simon**, asked **Perry Allen** to the stage. Perry supported dime-a-day last year by doing a dollar-a-day, which gets him into the President’s Club for his support of the OI Foundation and Paul presented him a pin.



From left, President Jon Wachter, Lt. Governor Paul Simon, and Perry Allen.
Photo Don StJohn

New Member Induction

Rob Fries, our newest member was inducted by **Prez Jon Wachter**. He accurately recited the required words and received his pin from Past President **Paul Simon**. Another new member - Welcome to Rob! (Editor, the Rob’s, Robert’s, and Bob’s, seem to be multiplying.)



Rob Fries, left, being presented his new member Optimist pin, by Paul Simon.
Photo Don StJohn

Announcements

Tree Lot Update: **Joe Marci**, our Tree Lot manager, reports that we have exceeded last year’s sales by 120 trees vs. last year at this time, despite the slowdown caused by the extremely cold weather. Three deliveries of trees came over the last week. The ladies of Tamarac Optimist Club did great work helping price the trees. Sixty-seven (67) different club members have worked the lot through yesterday, Saturday. This weekend we should sell 300 trees, so your help will be welcome — sign up on line and let’s sell some trees.

Tree Lot Scheduling: If you have not seen this Internet page, showing our calendar schedule, you have NOT signed-up properly for the Tree Lot. Although we want everyone’s participation, it is requested that you log-in and post your planned work hours, so everyone can see coverage. **Jack Rife** is the scheduling “guru” for the tree lot. PLEASE use the website to let the daily shift managers know who is coming and when. That makes the job easier for planning and anticipating coverage issues. Even if you are about to get in your car and drive over, sign-up on line

Cont. next page

Meeting Place
American Legion Hall Post 1
5400 East Yale Avenue (Yale & I-25), Denver, Colorado
Every Friday Morning, 7:00 – 8:00 am
******INVITE A FRIEND TO JOIN******

Announcements Continued

so the day managers can see who is on duty. To do so, go to: www.monacosouth.org, look at the bottom right for "Member Tree Lot Sign Up" Click to access the schedule, Enter USER NAME: msoc76, and PASSWORD: xmas2013. Any online problems, give Jack a call. 303-349-1280.

Tree Lot Snacks & Drinks: Grocery supply coordinator, **Ron Cisco**, stated that consumption at the lot has been brisk, so kudos to the members who are pulling their weight on this large project. So if you need supplies, see Ron. However, the barbecue grill for stakes and baking potato's is out.

Tree Lot Annual Chili Cook-off: This year the Chili Cook-off will be Sunday, Dec 15th. According to **Ron Cisco** the winner will get a \$50 gift certificate to Chili's restaurant! Ron is thinking about coming out of retirement and participating, so if you are going to enter the contest, bring your best chili and see if you can top the 10-time contest winner.



Last Call for Entertainment Books: **Joe Marci** reports that there is one week left to buy 2013-14 *Entertainment* books and support the **Robert Sullivan Scholarship Program**. They will be available for sale at the tree lot this weekend. They make a great Holiday gift idea. If you want to buy one for a friend or family member, contact Joe at 303-771-3748. The books are \$30, and Joe say thanks to those who have already purchased books and supported the Scholarship Program.



Brain Bowl Update: **Karl Geil** shared again that there are four tournaments and we need at least 135 volunteers. Sign up to be a reader, or sign up to be a tournament volunteer at www.optimistbrainbowl.com. The reader training is:

- ⇒ January 4, @ 9:00 a.m. Valmont Presbyterian Church in Boulder
- ⇒ January 7 @ 6:30 p.m. Heritage High School in Littleton
- ⇒ January 18 @ 9:00 a.m. Carson Middle School in Colorado Springs
- ⇒ January 25 @ 9:00 a.m. Hamilton Middle School in S.E. Denver

The Tournaments will be held on January 11th at Stanley Lake High School for the North Region; February 1st at Heritage High School for the Central Region; February 8th at Carson Middle School for the South Region; and on February 22nd at Hamilton Middle School for the District Championship.

Tree Lot Santa's: **Craig Ely**, said that he needs Santa's for the weekends! Sign-up or Craig will have to reduce the hours for kids to meet the jolly old elf. As you can see from the pictures, downloadable for everyone visiting, that everyone loves this opportunity.



Some of the gleeful smiles that are captured in the Santa Haus and are easily downloaded for a nice reminder. See Craig Ely if interested.

Christmas Food Baskets Delivery: **Michael**



Chavez is arranging the Saturday, December 21st delivery of Christmas baskets to 45 families. Michael needs about 30 people to deliver. We will start at 8:30 a.m., so sign-up to participate.

White Elephant Gift Exchange: **Oscar Sorenson**



reminded us that in two weeks we will hold the White Elephant gift exchange, so start thinking of ideas of an appropriate gift to share. In years past, members like **Ed Collins**, received a memorable gift, as shown at right. Others have received special gifts that Santa picks out, which brings a few good laughs.



Colorado Rockies Tickets: Since the 1993 inaugural season the MSOC has had access to four season tickets available for Rockies Games in Section 137, Row 31. New or existing members are invited to join the group of people eligible to purchase these tickets. The tickets are available for any game except Opening Day, Fireworks, Cubs, and Cardinals games. These go to the members that purchase the largest number of tickets. If you are interested in these tickets, see **Tom Mauro**, the coordinator. You can purchase any number of tickets you like for \$38 per ticket. You can pick any game you want with the exception of the above and if you cannot attend a game, you can trade in the tickets for other games at \$1 per ticket. Let Tom know before March 1, 2014.

December 13 Program Change: Instead of Dave Luetkenhaus, Executive Director of Legal Shield our speaker will be **Chris Bray** a private investigator and chairman of the Professional Private Investigators Association of Colorado. **Paul Simon** shares "...last year a divisive bill that would have mandated licensing of PIs in Colorado was killed in committee just before the session ended. Some form of a similar bill likely will be introduced in the new session. It's a contentious issue among private investigators. It's a fascinating topic given our own fascination with private eyes."

The Jack of Hearts

Editor: Since the drawing card today was the "Jack of Hearts," it was learned that "Jack of Hearts," was a Marvel Comics Superhero? He first appeared in 1976.



Our Speaker: Bob Coulson Congressional Youth Awards



Bob Coulson
Photo Craig Eley

Our own club member **Bob Coulson** was our speaker today, getting us up to speed on the [Congressional Youth Awards Program 2014](http://www.congressionalaward.org/youth/video.php). He presented a video which provided an overview. To see this video go to <http://www.congressionalaward.org/youth/video.php>.

Five club members have been trained already, and an additional training day is coming up with a goal of an additional five (see attachment for details). Help is needed to distribute information at area middle and high school's to promote the program and get kids—between the ages of 13½ and 23—to join the program. Many of the club's existing programs will provide opportunities for kids to work toward the award.

Another Opportunity for Champion Adviser Training is on Sunday, Jan 12, 2014. The Champion-Adviser Orientation is from 1 to 2 p.m. and the Training starts at 2 p.m.

As Bob raises the question, "Why should I come?" *"Hmmm...follow through on your New Year's Resolution...I will build my legacy, connect my kids, grand-kids, school groups, civic youth groups, get young people credit for what they are doing, help build their college app and resume, develop parents into Optimist members, grow future young Optimists, strengthen my Optimist program with more rea-*

sons to participate, create my program's "next step" in the youth's development when they may age out of my program, mentor some youth to become future leaders and maybe good future Congress leaders too! Oh...and I would like to have snacks and fun on just five Sunday afternoons in 2014!"

The 2014 Sundays are at the American Legion Auditorium, 5400 E Yale Ave., Denver, on:

- ◇ Jan. 26, 2014 - Youth and Family Orientation (1-2 p.m.) and Goal Advising (2-4 p.m.)
- ◇ Mar. 2, 2014 - Youth and Family Orientation (1-2 p.m.) and Goal Advising (2-4 p.m.)
- ◇ May. 18, 2014 - Youth and Family Orientation (1-2 p.m.) and Goal Advising (2-4 p.m.)
- ◇ Sep. 14, 2014 - Youth and Family Orientation (1-2 p.m.) and Goal Advising (2-4 p.m.)

Those who have already completed Congressional Youth Award Adviser training are, Co-Chair **Pat Bush, Greg Young, John and Ruthy Oss** and new member **Rob Fries** ... ask them about the program!

We ask everyone get the youth flyer out and send it to your kids, grand-kids, friends kids, etc. it is a great New Year's Resolution.

Drawing

Russ Paul and **Nick Newey** each went in search of the "Jack of Hearts," but no luck. Cups went to: **Cy Regan, Bob Avery, Bob Coulson, Dick Zolman, Allen Yockey, and Mark Metevia**. For the Name Tag drawing, Jack Kleinheksel had his on, but no luck on the draw for \$110.



Closing Bell

Our Optimist creed led by **Bob Avery**, and then it was back into the Winter Wonderland!



Super Citizen Presenters for December		
Dec 11 @ 2:30	MPB	George Buzick
Dec 13 @ 8:30	Slavens	Michael Chavez
Dec 17 @ 1:30	Samuels	Phil Perington
Dec 19 @ 5:30	Hamilton	Mike Mauro

Weekly Greeters	
12/13/13	Don Thomson & Cap Hermann
12/20/13	Ron Carlson & Steve Kady
12/27/13	Bryce Slaby & Dave Peck
HAPPY NEW YEAR	
1/3/2014	Ralph Pederson & Dave Owens

Monaco South Calendar

Dec 13	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Chris Bray, Private Investigator & Chairman, Professional Private Investigators Association of Colorado
Dec 18	Wed	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Dec 20	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Santa Gift Exchange
Dec 25	Wed		Merry Christmas
Dec 27	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day

**Past Presidents of the
Optimist Club of Monaco South**

Bob Rhue	1976-77	Bob Safe	1995-96
Jerry Whitlow	1977-78	Tom Overton	1996-97
Bill Kosena	1978-79	Peter Dimond	1997-98
Duane Wehrer	1979-80	Ralph Symalla	1998-99
Curt Jefferies	1980-81	Cy Regan	1999-00
Frank Middleton	1981-82	Stan Cohen	2000-01
John Young	1982-83	Don St. John	2001-02
Pat Bush	1983-84	Jack Rife	2002-03
Bob Hugo	1984-85	Karl Geil	2003-04
Tom Mauro	1985-86	Bryce Slaby	2004-05
Curt Lorenzen	1986-87	Donlie Smith	2005-06
Oscar Sorensen	1987-88	Paul Bernard	2006-07
Lupe Salinas	1988-89	Greg Young	2007-08
Bob Avery	1989-90	Phil Perington	2008-09
Bill Litchfield	1990-91	Ron Cisco	2009-10
Bill Walters	1991-92	Ed Collins	2010-11
Kent Gloor	1992-93	Randy Marcove	2011-12
Gary Strowbridge	1993-94	Paul Simon	2012-13
Mark Metevia	1994-95		

2013 - 2014 Officers

President	Jon Wachter	303-204-5645
Vice President	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Vice President	John Oss	720-210-8056
Secretary	Pat Bush	720-747-5482
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
J. R. Gieck	949-636-7614
Jack Kleinheksel	720-938-1760
Mike McMahon	303-514-5175
Fred Pasternack	303-758-3754
Ralph Petersen	303-759-3384
Michael Short	970-261-6012
Scott Walker	303-803-3338
Paul Simon (Past Pres.)	303-300-9940

Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rinkelmeier@comcast.net	Ralph Petersen	303-759-3384	r.pedersen2658@comcast.net
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net	John Oss	720-210-8056	john.oss4us@gmail.com
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rzolman691@aol.com	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375	pcstratton@comcast.net
George Buzick	303-803-2268	gtbuzick@comcast.net	Pat Bush	720-254-3741	pbush@bushreese.com
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	rlawardlaw@gmail.com	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	craigceley@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Oct **Robert Wardlaw**, Nov **Pat Bush**, Dec **Paul Stratton**, Feb **John Oss**

THE OPTIMIST CREED — Promise Yourself . . .

- To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.
- To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.
- To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.
- To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.
- To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.
- To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.
- To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.
- To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.
- To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.
- To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.